

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL NOTES

A PRELIMINARY CHECK-LIST OF NINETEENTH CENTURY
OKLAHOMA BOOK PUBLISHERS

By Rollo G. Silver¹

This check-list of Nineteenth Century Oklahoma book publishers arranged according to the imprints used by the publishing firms, will serve as a handy guide for bibliographers, librarians, and students of the history of printing. It is, however, not complete and additional information will be welcomed. The Bibliographical Society of America is now preparing an index of Nineteenth Century American book publishers and it is hoped that this check-list will lead to the completion of the section about Oklahoma.

BAPTIST MISSION PRESS (1843-1859). Location, Breatdown, Cherokee Nation.²

Carolyn Thomas Foreman, *Oklahoma Imprints* (Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 1936), pp. 27-32, gives a history of the Baptist Mission Press.³

"The Baptist Mission Press was established in 1843, a font of Cherokee type having been brought from the Shawanoë Baptist Mission in Kansas for its use. This press rendered a real service in publishing and distributing the *Cherokee Messenger* and other worthwhile works throughout the Cherokee Nation. The publication was the first periodical printed in Oklahoma. It was edited by the Reverend Evan Jones, with press work by Hervey Upham. A sixteen-page, two-column paper, it was issued at regular intervals and largely devoted to religious and temperance subjects. It was printed principally in the Cherokee language (Sequoyah alphabet) with less than four columns in English appearing in the first issue. The first edition consisted of sixteen hundred copies, the series of twelve issues running from August, 1844, to May, 1846. * * * After a lapse of a little more than two years *The Cherokee Messenger* was revived in 1848 by John B. Jones for season. Publication was resumed again in June, 1859, for a brief period."—Manuscript, "Baptist Missions Among the Cherokees," by James W. Moffitt.

Leaders: Rev. Evan Jones (May, 1788—August 18, 1872); Rev. John B. Jones (December 24, 1824—June 17, 1876); Rev. Jesse Bushyhead (September, 1804—July 17, 1844).

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² This place was the original camp site established by Reverend Jesse Bushyhead, in 1839, at which rations were issued to needy immigrant Cherokees upon their arrival in the Indian Territory, hence its name "Bread Town." Religious work was begun at once by Mr. Bushyhead and the place was soon best known as "Baptist Mission." It was also variously referred to as "Baptist Cherokee Mission," "Baptist," and "Cherokee." This location (S. 13, T. 18 N., R. 25 E.) to-day is about five miles north of Westville, in Adair County. In connection with the Mission, the American Baptist Missionary Union operated the Cherokee Female Seminary here before 1860, a missionary institution and not to be confused with the Cherokee National Female Seminary, the original site of which was near Park Hill. —From manuscript notes, "Historic Sites in Oklahoma," by Muriel H. Wright.

³ Further references in these Bibliographical Notes to Carolyn Thomas Foreman, *Oklahoma Imprints* (Norman: University Press, 1936), will be cited *Oklahoma Imprints*.

See, E. C. Routh, "Early Missionaries to the Cherokees" (with portraits of Evan Jones and his son, John B. Jones), *The Chronicles of Oklahoma*, XV (December, 1937), pp. 449-65, for information on all three leaders; *Indian Missionary*, Atoka, Indian Territory, III (February, 1887), 4, for information about Rev. Jesse Bushyhead; and consult Alumni Secretary, University of Rochester, Rochester, New York, for information in his possession about Rev. John B. Jones.

Printers: Mark Tiger and Hervey Upham.

"The Joneses, assisted by Hervey Upham and Mark Tiger, published at Baptist Mission the Cherokee Messenger, a monthly missionary publication, a part of which was printed in the Cherokee language."—Emmet Starr, *Early History of the Cherokees* (Kansas City: 1916?), p. 79.

Mark Tiger, "A full-blood Cherokee who was an interpreter, translator, and typesetter (Sequoyah type) in the office of the *Cherokee Advocate* many years ago."—Letter of Frank J. Boudinot, Washington, D. C., February 16, 1943.

Hervey Upham was born at Salem, Mass., Dec. 10, 1820. He acquired a knowledge of printing in the *Christian Watchman* office, Boston. On June 2, 1843, he was appointed a missionary of the American Baptist Foreign Mission Society. Upham left Salem on May 23, 1843, and arrived at Cherokee on June 24, 1843. He resigned in 1851 and returned to New England in July, 1852. In 1879, he moved to a farm near Boerne, Texas, where he died on June 22, 1897.—Biographical information supplied by Mrs. S. P. Harris, Boerne, Texas; Miss Esther Usher, Salem, Mass.; and Mr. D. F. De Trude, New York, N. Y.

E. C. BOUDINOT, JR. Tahlequah, Cherokee Nation (1884).

"E. C. (Elias Cornelius) Boudinot, Jr., was born in the Cherokee Nation, Indian Territory (now Oklahoma) January 2, 1854, son of Wm. P. and Caroline Fields Boudinot. He died in February, 1896, at Tahlequah. He was married to Addeline Foreman (Cherokee, as he was of course) May 26, 1880. No children. He was a lawyer by profession, editor of the *Cherokee Advocate*, . . . statesman. In 1891 he was Chairman of the Commissioners representing the Cherokee Government who, with the Commissioners representing the United States, negotiated and signed the Agreement for the sale of the 'Cherokee Outlet'. . . . He and this writer (we were law partners) were two of the lawyers who advised the Council of the Old Settler or Western Cherokees in the matter of their claim against the United States in which a recovery of more than \$800,000 was obtained for our clients. In the fall of 1895 he was selected by the National Council of the Cherokee Nation as special Delegate to Washington in the matter of the controversy concerning whether the 'Freedmen', so-called, should be given shares of Cherokee Indian Communal property. . . . He became ill before completion of his work in that matter and, returning home to Tahlequah about February 1st., 1896, died a few days later. He was not a 'printer' in the narrow sense at any time. . . ."—Letter of Frank J. Boudinot, Washington, D. C., Feb. 6, 1943.

JOSIAH BROWN (1870). Chickasaw Nation. For a biography see H. F. O'Beirne, *Leaders and Leading Men of the Indian Territory* (Chicago: 1891), pp. 252-53, with portrait.

"As National Secretary of the Chickasaw Nation, Brown was, I think, merely in a position of letting out the printing contract. The volume was actually printed at the Courier Job Printing Office at Sherman, Texas."—Letter of Lester Hargrett, Washington, D. C., Feb. 17, 1943.

CHEROKEE ADVOCATE OFFICE. Location, Tahlequah, Cherokee Nation.

Established by authority of the National Council in 1843, as a public printing office; repaired by an Act of the National Council, dated December 16, 1867; destroyed by fire in 1874; new brick building completed by 1876; ordered sold by Office of Indian Affairs, May 11, 1911.—*Oklahoma Imprints*, pp. 76-85, with photographic views.

- "The National Council, by an act of October 25th, 1843, authorized the publication of a National paper at Tahlequah, which was to be known as the Cherokee Advocate. The editor was to be elected by the National Council; this office was first filled by William Potter Ross, a nephew of Chief John Ross. Young Ross had recently graduated from Princeton University and was a scholarly and courtly gentleman.
- "The First issue of the Cherokee Advocate appeared on September 26, 1844, and was continued until September 23th, 1853.
- "The Advocate was discontinued until after the Civil War, and volume 1, No. 1 of the second series was issued April 26th, 1870, and the last known issue of this series was December 26th, 1874, shortly after which time the office and all the fixtures were destroyed by an accidental fire.
- "Volume 1, No. 1, of the third series was issued on March 4th, 1876."—Starr, *Early History of the Cherokees, op. cit.*, p. 71.
- CHEROKEE NATIONAL PRESS, Tahlequah (1870).** See *Oklahoma Imprints*, pp. 51-52 and 76-85.
- CHIEFTAIN PRINT, Ardmore (1891).** Founded in Oklahoma City, 1889, by R. W. McAdam. The firm, publisher of the *Oklahoma Chief*, was moved to Ardmore in September, 1890; see *Oklahoma Imprints*, p. 368.
- CHOCTAW NEWS, Talihina (1896).** A history of this firm, owned by B. F. Grandy, is in *Oklahoma Imprints*, p. 171.
- DAILY LEADER PRESS, Guthrie (1895-1897).**
- DAILY LEADER PRINT Co., Guthrie (1896).**
- DAILY LEADER PRINTING Co., Guthrie (1896).** See Leader Company, Guthrie.
- DAMAGA, Tahlequah (1850).**
 "A full-blood Cherokee who was an interpreter, translator, and typesetter (Sequoyah type) in the office of the Cherokee Advocate many years ago."—Letter of Frank J. Boudinot, Washington, D. C., Feb. 16, 1943.
 The Cherokee name "Damaga" (also, spelled "Dom-uck" from a statement of George Fields) means "horsefly."—M.H.W.
 "Johnson was the English editor and he was assisted by James Horsefly, Cherokee editor."—*Oklahoma Imprints*, p. 81.
- JOHN DOUBLETOOTH, Tahlequah (1873).**
 "A full-blood Cherokee who was an interpreter, translator, and typesetter (Sequoyah type) in the office of the Cherokee Advocate many years ago."—Letter of Frank J. Boudinot, Washington, D. C., Feb. 16, 1943.
- J. F. DUBOIS, Tahlequah (1872).** No information available.
- T. W. FOREMAN, Tahlequah (1888).**
 "Typesetter (English and Cherokee type) in the Cherokee Advocate Office beginning in the late 70's and continuing until the abolishment of the Advocate in 1906 by Act of Congress. Died about 4 years ago in Tulsa, Oklahoma."—Letter of Frank J. Boudinot, Washington, D. C., Feb. 16, 1943.
- E. J. FOSTER, Tishomingo City (1860).** No information available.
- GUTHRIE DIRECTORY Co., Guthrie.** This firm published a directory of Guthrie in 1896.

GUTHRIE LEADER, Guthrie (1899). See Leader Company, Guthrie.

W. J. HEMBY, Atoka (1878). W. J. Hemby published the *Atoka Independent*. He was a practical printer (*Oklahoma Imprints*, p. 147).

HERALD PRESS, Caddo (1899). A history of this firm, publisher of the *Caddo Herald*, is in *Oklahoma Imprints*, pp. 146-147. Owner: John S. Hancock (Nov. 12, 1832—Jan. 15, 1901). Biography in *Chronicles of Oklahoma*, X, 2, (June, 1932), p. 304.

E. H. HUBBARD & Co., Muskogee (1894-1895).

"The firm was my brother Frank C. Hubbard and myself, E. H. Hubbard. I think we were in business 1893 to 1897. We were both printers. I later organized the Model Printing Co. and sold it in 1919. We were Commercial Book & Job printers. I remember we printed the 'Acts and Resolutions of the Creek National Council 1894' also the 'Laws of Creek Nation', they were printed in Creek. At this time the only particular reason that I can think of was that we had the extra type that was needed, that is extra letters that the Creek language called for. . . . At that time the town was not surveyed or plotted; our shop was on what is now North 2nd. St. . . ."—Letter of E. H. Hubbard, Muskogee, Jan. 12, 1943.

"Mr. Ernest H. Hubbard . . . is a half brother of Frank C. Hubbard. Ernest was born at Kokomo, Indiana, September 12, 1871. . . ."—Letter of Mrs. Grant Foreman, Muskogee, Jan. 4, 1943.

For information about Frank C. Hubbard, see Phoenix Printing Co.

F. C. HUBBARD, Muskogee (1893). See above.

INDIAN CHIEFTAIN, Vinita (1884). A history of this firm can be found in *Oklahoma Imprints*, pp. 94-97.

Owner: M. E. Milford (b. 1856). See H. F. O'Beirne, *Leaders and Leading Men of the Indian Territory* (Chicago, 1891), p. 263 for biography.

INDIAN CITIZEN PRINT, Atoka (1890). A history of this firm, publisher of the *Indian Citizen*, is in *Oklahoma Imprints*, pp. 140-141. An article about the firm is in the *Atoka Citizen-Democrat*, April 11, 1935.

Owners: James S. Standley (March 8, 1841—Oct. 20, 1904). See H. F. O'Beirne, *Leaders and Leading Men of the Indian Territory* (Chicago, 1891), pp. 92-93, portrait on p. 92; and *Chronicles of Oklahoma*, X, (December, 1932), pp. 614-617. Portrait opp. p. 614.

Butler S. Smiser (July 6, 1862—April 7, 1942). For biography see H. F. O'Beirne, *Leaders and Leading Men of the Indian Territory* (Chicago: 1891), p. 117.

Norma S. Smiser (b. July 15, 1865).

"My husband, B. S. Smiser died April 7, 1942 in our home—our Indian allotment. I still live here with my daughter Mrs. B. F. Bryant. My husband was a native of Kentucky—came to Atoka fall of 1883 as Supt. public schools. He had always wanted to be a Minister for Christ & 1915 he yielded to such desire and had been with the Christian Church at Atoka for 8 years. During his 23 years as minister he had only 4 pastorates. He was 79 July 6, 1941 and died April 7, 1942. I am now 77 will be 78 July 15, 1943."—Letter of Mrs. B. S. Smiser, Atoka, Jan. 25, 1943.

INDIAN JOURNAL PRINTING CO., Eufaula (1894).

INDIAN JOURNAL STEAM PRINT, Eufaula (1887). A history of this firm, publisher of the *Indian Journal*, is in *Oklahoma Imprints*, pp. 179-185.

Owners: W. E. Gentry (b. March 11, 1842), Biography in D. C. Gideon, *Indian Territory* (New York & Chicago), 1901, pp. 360-361, portrait opp. p. 360; and G. W. Grayson (1843—Dec. 2, 1920), biography in *Chronicles of Oklahoma*, I, (January, 1921), p. 105.

INDIAN JOURNAL STEAM PRINT, Muskogee (1884).

INDIAN JOURNAL STEAM JOB OFFICE, Muskogee (1885).

INDIAN JOURNAL STEAM JOB PRINT, Muskogee (1884). A history of this firm, publisher of the *Indian Journal*, is in *Oklahoma Imprints*, pp. 190-194.

Owners: Renfrew M. Roberts. Loren H. Roberts.

LEADER COMPANY, Guthrie (1897).

LEADER PRINTING Co., Guthrie (1894). A history of this firm, publisher of the *Guthrie Daily Leader*, is in *Oklahoma Imprints*, pp. 322-323.

Owner: Leslie G. Niblack (b. Oct. 1, 1876). Biography in Joseph B. Thornburn, *A Standard History of Oklahoma*, (Chicago and New York, 1916), V, pp. 1922-1923.

GEO. W. McFARLIN, Tahlequah (1877).

"He was also a typesetter with the Cherokee Advocate during the 1880's—married at Tahlequah and had a daughter Eva (his wife was before her marriage Neppie Thorn). He left Tahlequah about fifty years ago and vague rumor had it that he settled in Tombstone, Arizona. He did not take his family with him."—Letter of Frank J. Boudinot, Washington, D. C., Feb. 16, 1943.

McMASTER PRINTING Co., Oklahoma City (1890). A history of this firm, publisher of the *Evening Gazette*, is in *Oklahoma Imprints*, pp. 371-372.

Owner: Frank McMaster (b. 1842). For biography, see W. F. Kerr and I. Gainer, *The Story of Oklahoma City* (Chicago: 1922), I, 145-155; L. B. Hill, *History of The State of Oklahoma*, (Chicago and New York: 1908), II, pp. 116-118; and Marion T. Rock, *Illustrated History of Oklahoma*, (Topeka: 1890), p. 225.

MISSION PRESS, Park Hill (1835-1860). A history of this press is in *Oklahoma Imprints*, pp. 4-26. Additional material about the press can be found in Muriel H. Wright, "Notes on the Life of Mrs. Hannah Worcester Hicks Hitchcock and the Park Hill Press," *The Chronicles of Oklahoma*, XIX, December, 1941), pp. 348-356.

Founder: Samuel A. Worcester (Jan. 19, 1798—April 20, 1859). For biography, see Althea Bass, *Cherokee Messenger* (Norman: 1936).

Printers: Edwin Archer (Sept. 19, 1817—May 15, 1893), biography in *Oklahoma Imprints*, pp. 15-16; John Candy (d. Aug. 21, 1863), biography in *Oklahoma Imprints*, p. 11; and John F. Wheeler (d. March 10, 1880), biography in *Oklahoma Imprints*, pp. 9-10.

MISSION PRESS, Union Mission (1835-1836). A history of this press is in *Oklahoma Imprints*, pp. 1-3.

Founder: Samuel A. Worcester—see above.

Printer: John F. Wheeler—see above.

MULDROW REGISTER PRINTING Co., Muldrow (1894). See Register Printing Co., Muldrow.

NATIONAL ADVOCATE PRINT, Tahlequah (1881).

NATIONAL PRESS, Tahlequah (1870).

NATIONAL PRINTING OFFICE, Tahlequah (1870-1871). See Cherokee Advocate Office, Tahlequah.

OKLAHOMA NEWS PUBLISHING Co., Guthrie (1890). A history of this firm, publisher of the *Guthrie Daily News*, is in *Oklahoma Imprints*, p. 323.

Owner: W. P. Thompson (b. Jan. 26, 1844). Biography in Marion T. Rock, *Illustrated History of Oklahoma*, Topeka, 1890, pp. 64-65. Portrait opp. p. 224. The following information has been supplied by Mrs. John C. Crosswhite, Matron, Confederate Home of Missouri, Higginsville, Missouri: "William P. Thompson was born Jan. 26, 1844. He was mustered into the Confederate Army as a private in Co. F, 60th. Alabama Regiment, and served until the surrender at Appomattox. He entered the Home July 10, 1902 and left Mar. 3, 1904. The title 'Colonel' was evidently honorary."

PHOENIX PRINTING Co., Muskogee (1888-1900).

PHOENIX STEAM PRINT, Muskogee (1889). A history of this firm, publisher of the *Muskogee Phoenix*, is in *Oklahoma Imprints*, pp. 203-209.

Owners: Frank C. Hubbard (Nov. 24, 1864—Oct. 23, 1930), biography in Grant Foreman, *A Tribute to the Memory of Frank C. Hubbard*, (Muskogee, 1930), also, obituary in *Muskogee Daily Phoenix*, Oct. 24, 1930; and Leo E. Bennett (Nov. 27, 1857—May 27, 1917). Biography in D. C. Gideon, *Indian Territory*, (New York & Chicago: 1901), pp. 256-257. Portrait opp. p. 256. Also, obituary in *Muskogee Daily Phoenix*, May 30, 1917.

FRANK G. PROUTY, Guthrie. Prouty published a directory of Guthrie in 1892.

REGISTER PRINTING Co., Muldrow (1895). A history of this firm, publisher of the *Muldrow Register*, is in *Oklahoma Imprints*, pp. 71-72.

Owner: James S. Holden (1843-1920). Biography in D. C. Gideon, *Indian Territory* (New York & Chicago: 1901), pp. 760-762. Portrait opp. p. 760.

ROONEY & HAMILTON, Guthrie. This firm published a directory of Guthrie in 1898.

SAMPSON PUBLISHING Co., Duncan (1894). A history of this firm, publisher of the *Duncan Banner*, is in *Oklahoma Imprints*, pp. 113-114.

Owners: James P. Sampson (June 10, 1842—1923). Biography in D. C. Gideon, *Indian Territory* (New York & Chicago, 1901), pp. 574-575; and Fred E. Sampson (1878—1935). Reference to James P. Sampson: "He ar-

rived at Duncan, Indian Territory, in 1892 and shortly afterwards founded the *Duncan Banner* which he owned and edited until 1901, when he sold the paper to his son."—Letter of Miss Helen Luke, Duncan, Jan. 18, 1943.

O. C. SEELY, Guthrie. Seely published *Oklahoma Illustrated* in 1894. No other information available.

JAMES W. SMITH, Guthrie (1890). Biography in Joseph B. Thoburn, *A Standard History of Oklahoma* (Chicago & New York: 1916), IV, p. 1590.

STATE CAPITAL PRINTING Co., Guthrie (1891-1899). A history of this firm, publisher of the *Daily State Capital*, is in *Oklahoma Imprints*, pp. 328-329.

Owner: Frank H. Greer (July 21, 1862—Aug. 8, 1933). For biography, see Marion T. Rock, *Illustrated History of Oklahoma*, Topeka, 1890, pp. 67-68, in the portrait opp. p. 68; Joseph B. Thoburn, *A Standard History of Oklahoma*, (Chicago & New York: 1916), III, p. 1111; Joseph B. Thoburn & Muriel H. Wright, *Oklahoma: A History of the State and Its People* (New York: 1929), III, p. 152, with portrait opp. p. 152; and also Joseph B. Thoburn, "Frank H. Greer," *Chronicles of Oklahoma*, XIV, (September, 1936), pp. 265-294 with portrait opp. p. 265.

JOHN F. WHEELER, Union (1836). See Mission Press, Park Hill.